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MARVEL

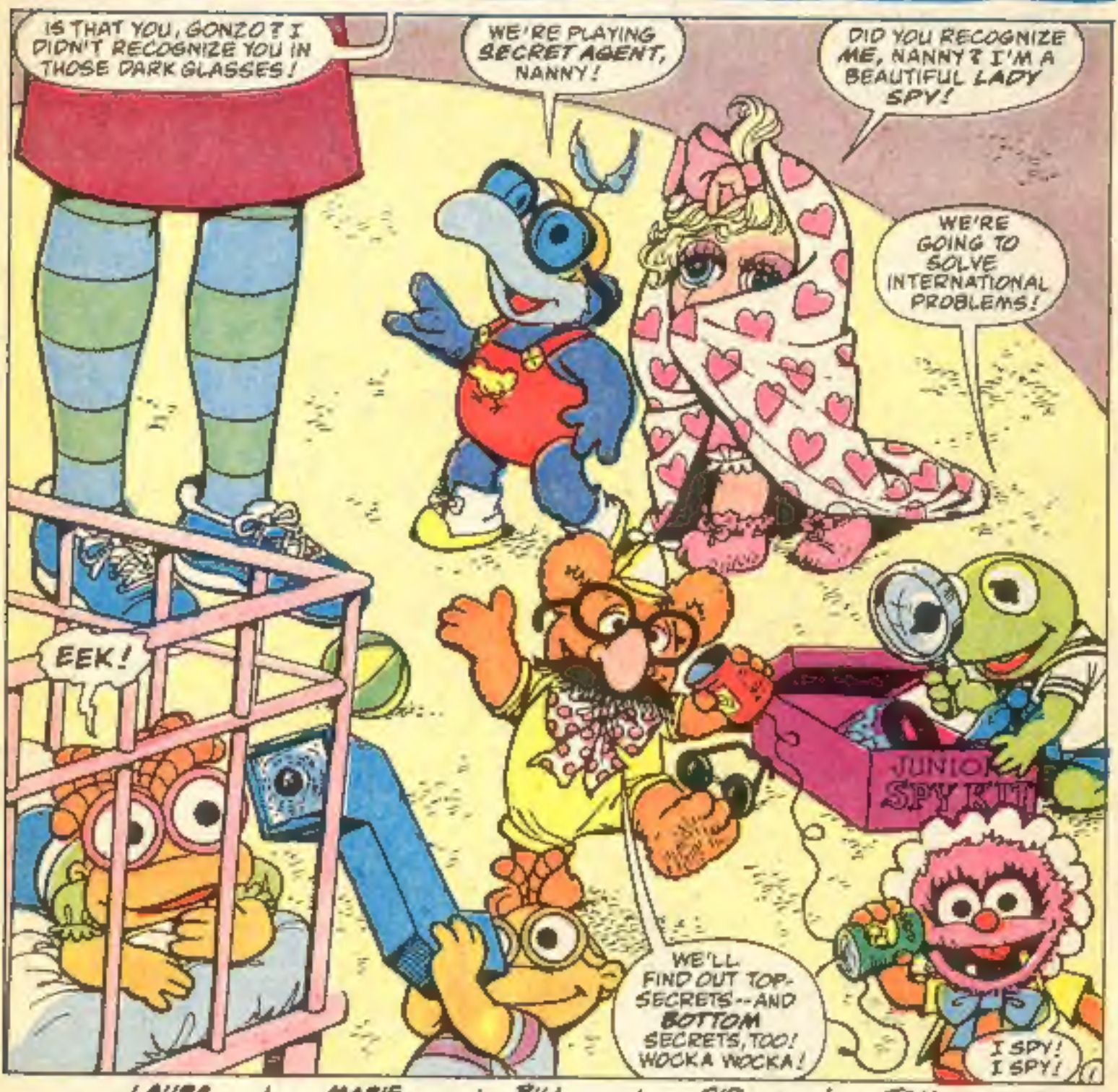
Jim Henson's MUPPET BABIES™

THE SPY IN STRIPED SOCKS!

STAR!
THE NEW WORLD IN THE MARVEL UNIVERSE!

A NEW SECRET AGENT "DOUBLE-O-F" MYSTERY!!
(WAS THERE EVER AN OLD ONE?)

MUPPET BABIES IN We SPY OR "THE SPY IN STRIPED SOCKS"


IS THAT YOU, GONZO? I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU IN THOSE DARK GLASSES!
WE'RE PLAYING SECRET AGENT, NANNY!
DID YOU RECOGNIZE ME, NANNY? I'M A BEAUTIFUL LADY SPY!
WE'RE GOING TO SOLVE INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS!
EEK!
JUNIOR SPY KIT
WE'LL FIND OUT TOP-SECRETS--AND BOTTOM SECRETS, TOO! WOOKA WOOKA!
I SPY! I SPY!

LAURA HITCHCOCK WRITER / MARIE SEVERIN ARTIST/COLORIST / BILL OAKLEY LETTERER / SID JACOBSON EDITOR / TOM DEFALCO EDITOR IN CHIEF

MUPPET BABIES™, Vol. 1, No. 18, November, 1987. (ISSN #0888-5324) Published by MARVEL COMICS, A NEW WORLD COMPANY. James E. Galton, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobson, Group Vice-President. Milton Schiffman, Vice-President, Production. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. **SECOND CLASS POSTAGE IS PAID IN NEW YORK, N.Y. AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES.** Published bi-monthly. MUPPET BABIES™ (including all prominent characters featured in this issue) and the distinctive likenesses thereof are the trademarks of Henson Associates, Inc. STAR COMICS is a trademark of the Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All MUPPET BABIES™ material copyright © 1987 Henson Associates, Inc. All rights reserved. All other material copyright © 1987 Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Price $1.00 per copy in the U.S. and $1.25 in Canada. Subscription rate $12.00 for 12 issues. Canada and Foreign, $14.00. Printed in the U.S.A. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. **POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO MUPPET BABIES, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, 9TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016.**

WILL YOU PLAY WITH US, NANNY?

I'D LIKE TO, SCOOTER, BUT I HAVE TO PICK UP SOME THINGS! AUNT FANNY WILL STAY WITH YOU!

SEE YOU LATER!

BYE-BYE!

AWW...

WHAT DO YOU THINK SHE HAS TO DO, KERMIT?

SHE SAID IT'S SOME KIND OF *PICKUP*, GONZO!

DO YOU THINK SOMETHING'S *WRONG*?

MAYBE SHE'S INVOLVED IN A COMPLICATED *SPY* PLOT OF INTERNATIONAL *INTRIGUE*!

FOZZIE *MUST* BE RIGHT! OTHERWISE, SHE DEFINITELY WOULD PLAY WITH US!

THEN WE HAVE TO *HELP* HER!

THESE GADGETS WILL HELP YOU!

YOU SHOULD GO *UNDERCOVER*, KERMIT!

UNDERCOVER? UNDERCOVER?

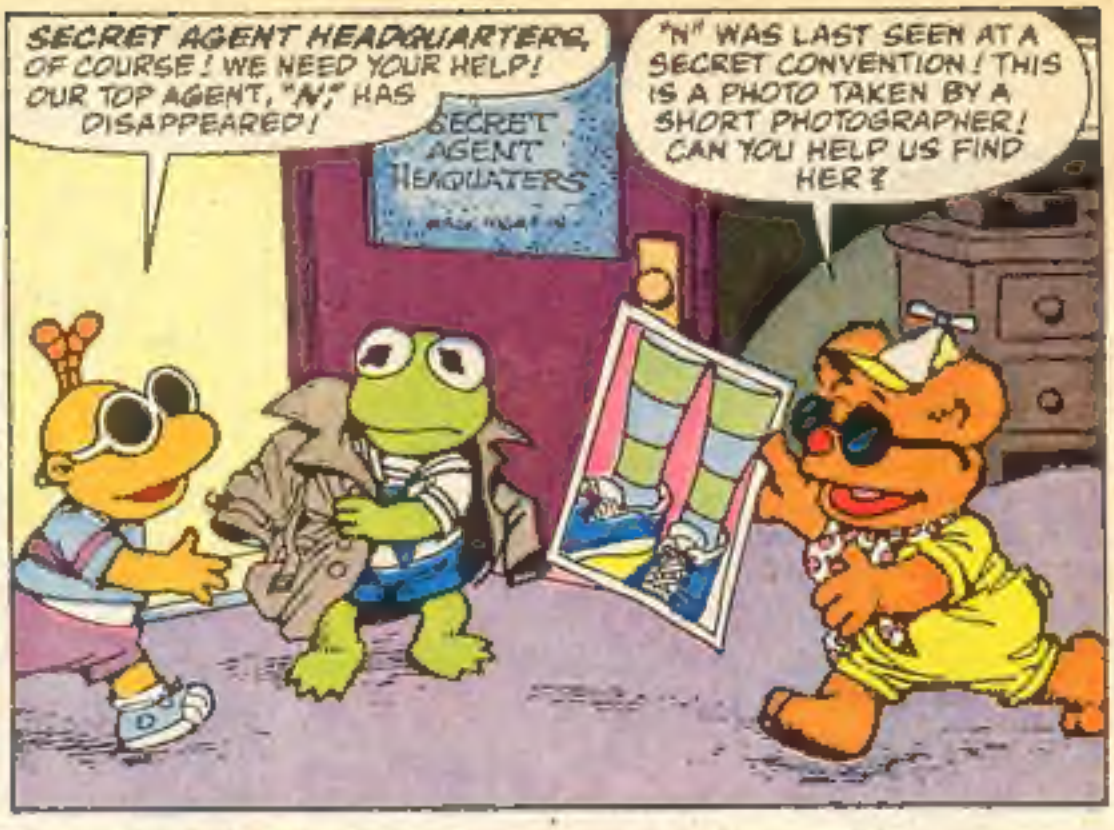
UNDERCOVERS!!

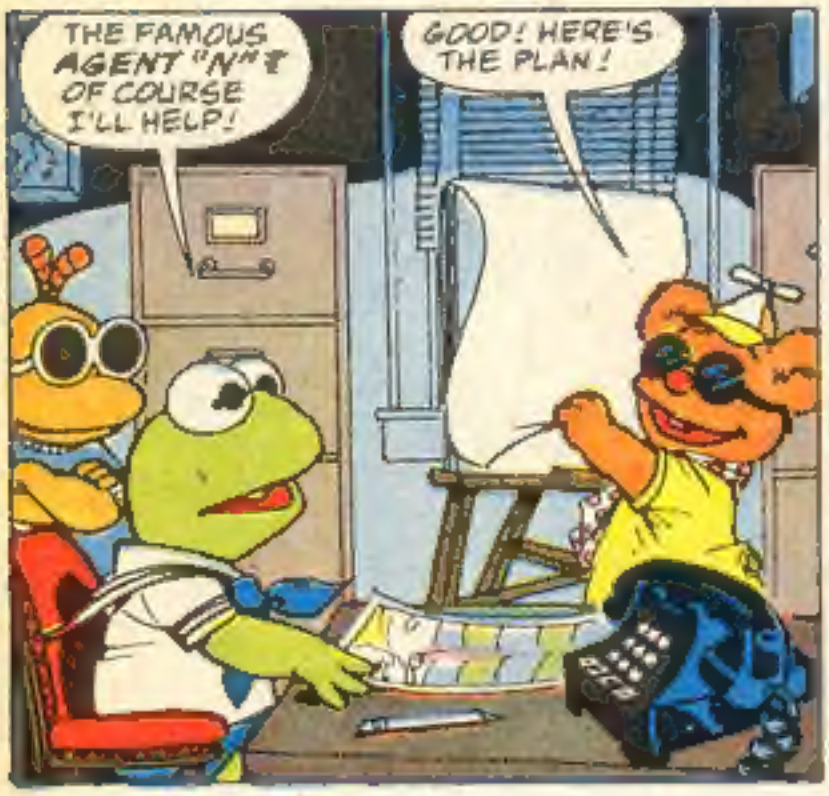
HUH?

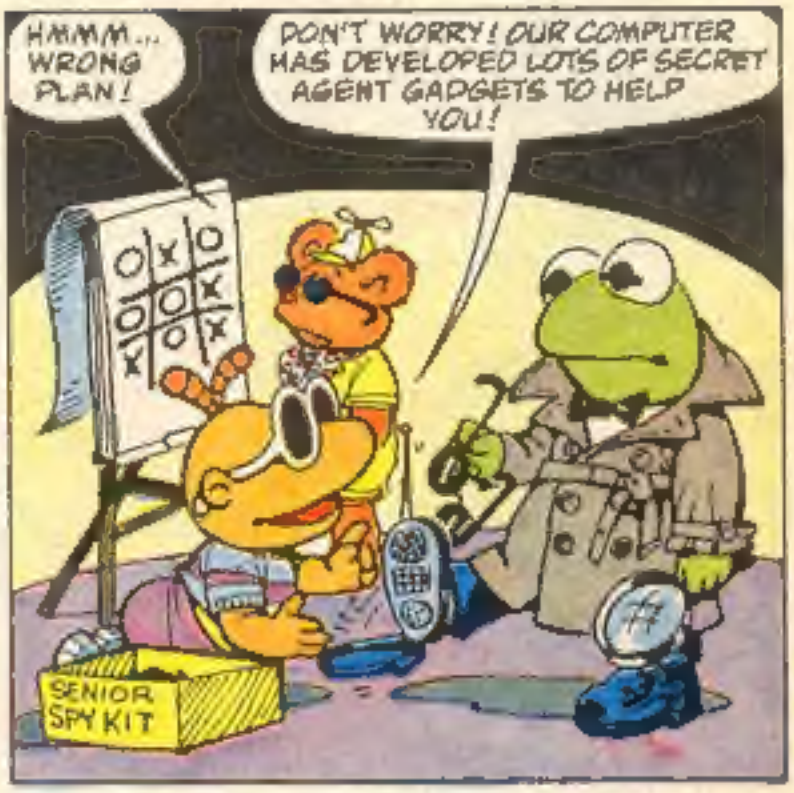
SHEESH!

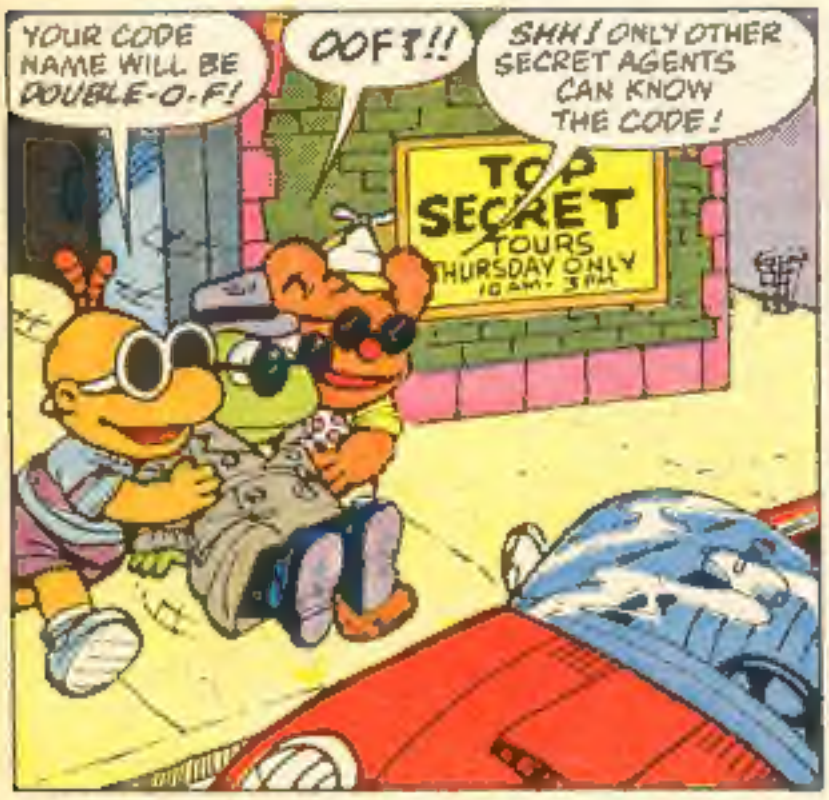
HOW DO I GET OUT OF...

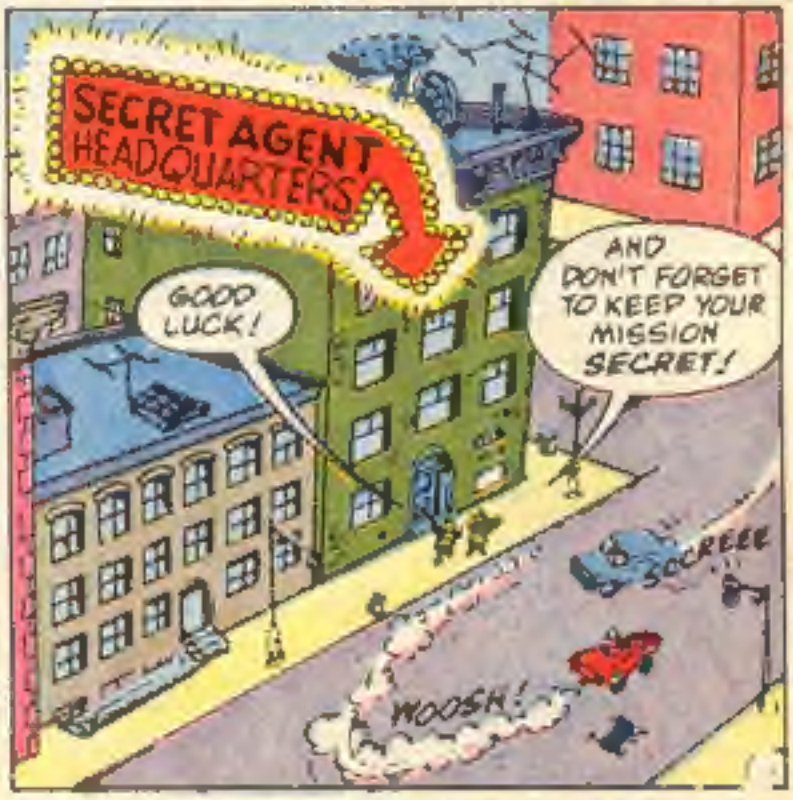
...HERE?!?
HEY, WHERE AM I?

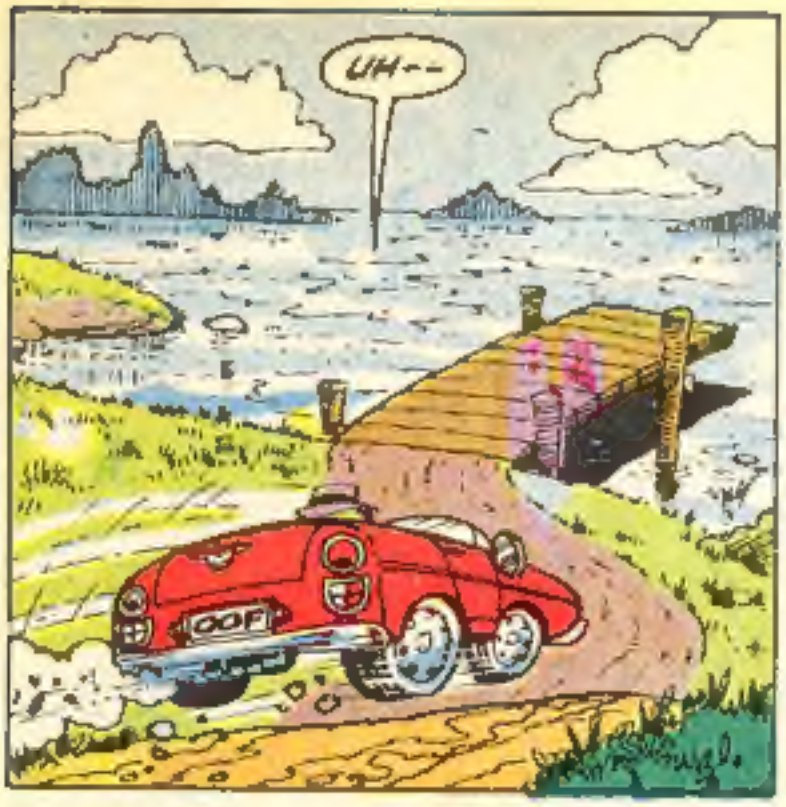

SECRET AGENT HEADQUARTERS, OF COURSE! WE NEED YOUR HELP! OUR TOP AGENT, "N," HAS DISAPPEARED!
SECRET AGENT HEADQUATERS
"N" WAS LAST SEEN AT A SECRET CONVENTION! THIS IS A PHOTO TAKEN BY A SHORT PHOTOGRAPHER! CAN YOU HELP US FIND HER?

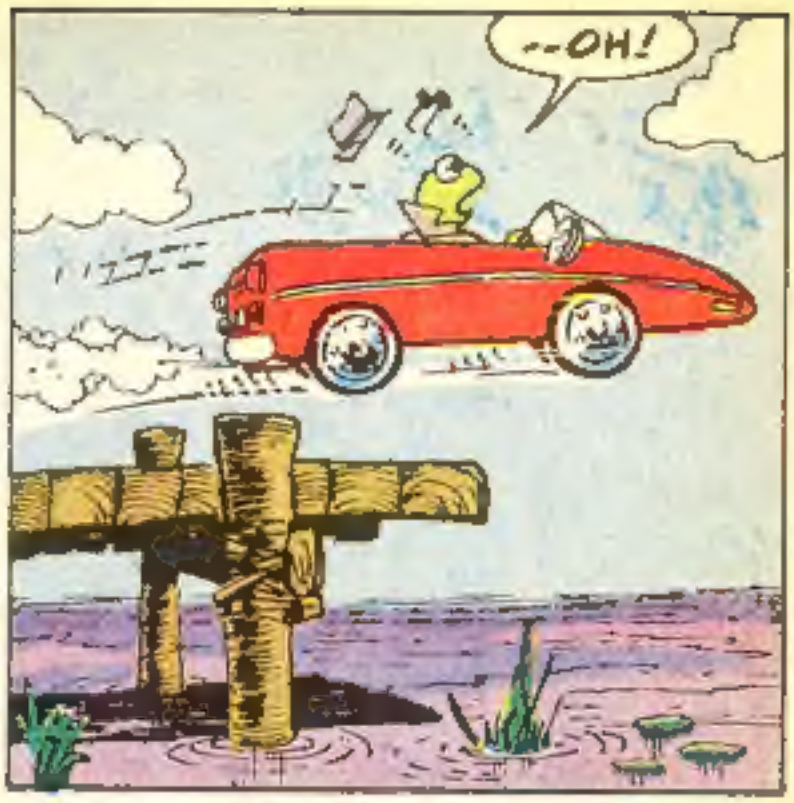

THE FAMOUS AGENT "N"? OF COURSE I'LL HELP!
GOOD! HERE'S THE PLAN!

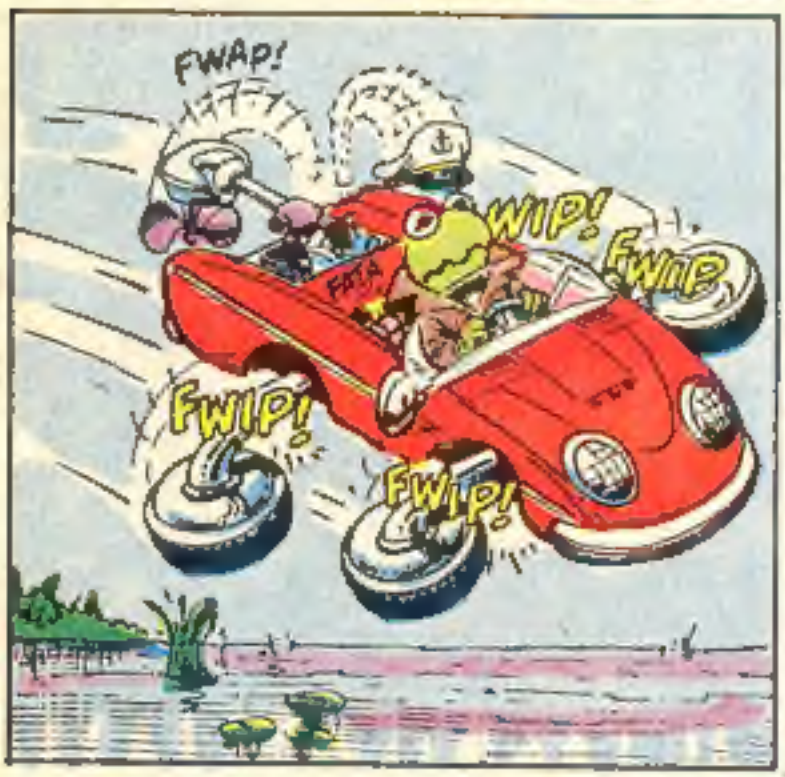

HMMM... WRONG PLAN!
DON'T WORRY! OUR COMPUTER HAS DEVELOPED LOTS OF SECRET AGENT GADGETS TO HELP YOU!
SENIOR SPY KIT

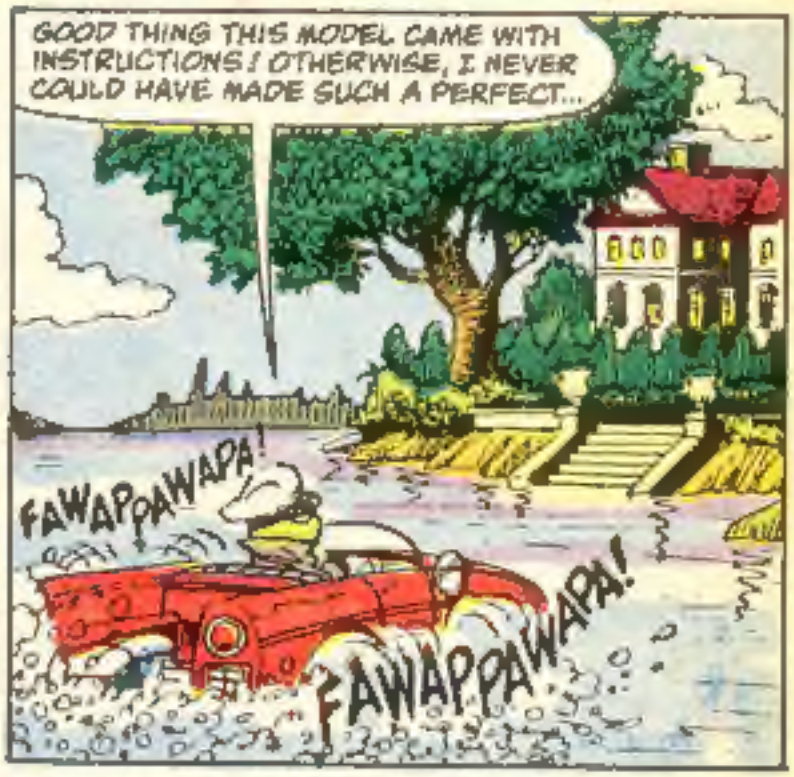

YOUR CODE NAME WILL BE DOUBLE-O-F!
OOF?!!
SHH! ONLY OTHER SECRET AGENTS CAN KNOW THE CODE!
TOP SECRET TOURS THURSDAY ONLY 10 AM - 3 PM

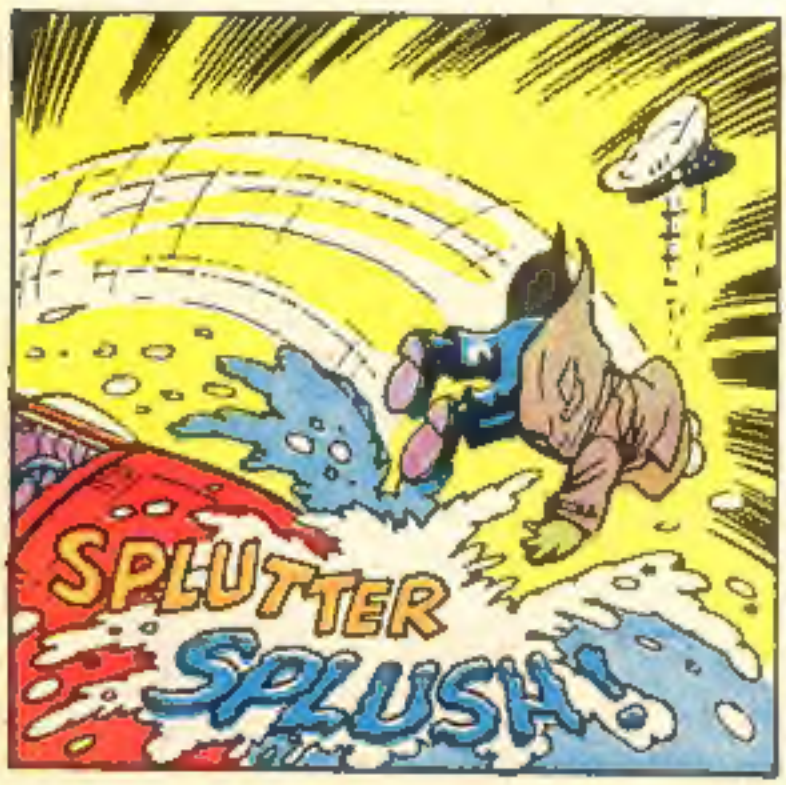

SECRET AGENT HEADQUARTERS
GOOD LUCK!
AND DON'T FORGET TO KEEP YOUR MISSION SECRET!
SCCREEE
WOOSH!


UH--
OOF!

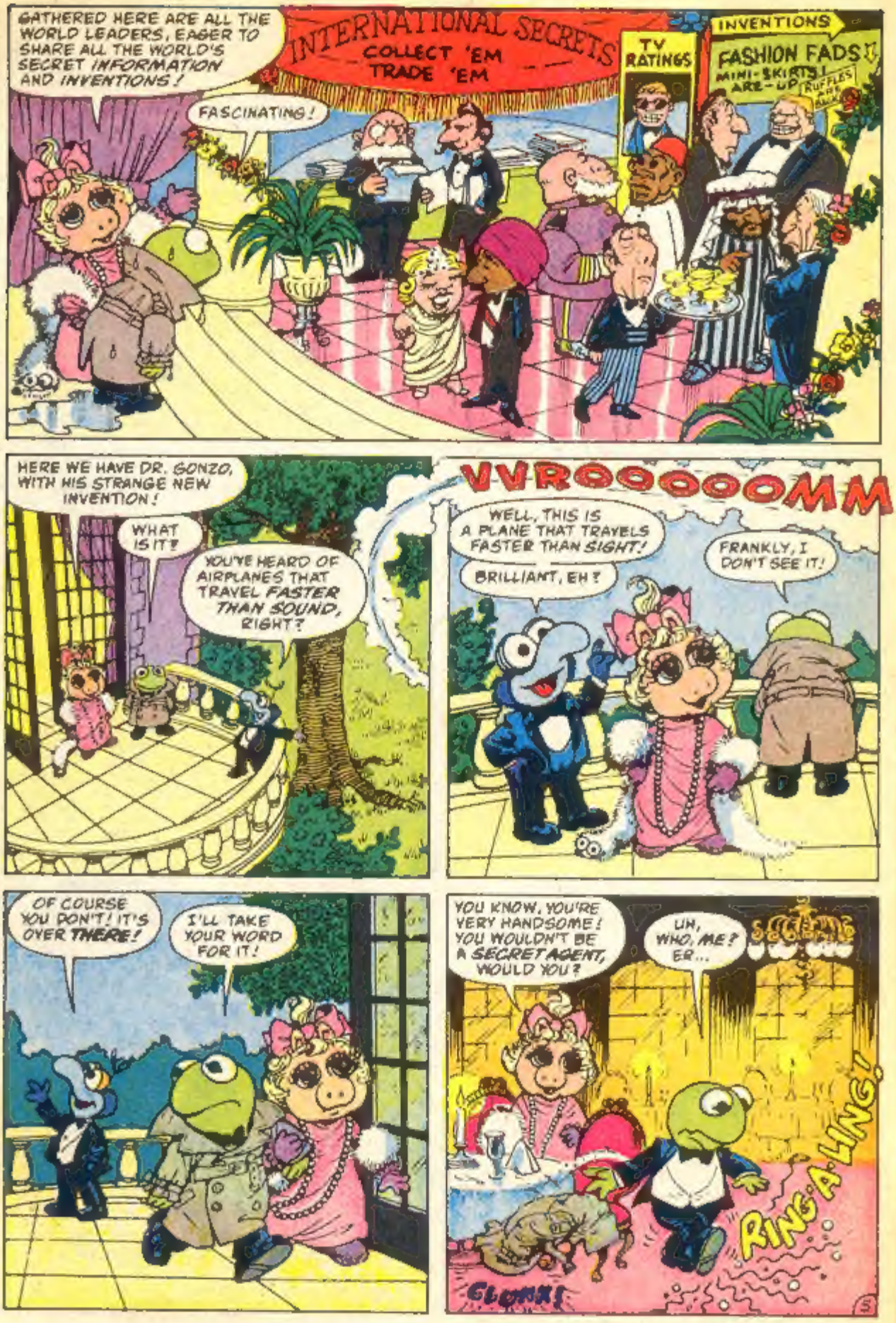

--OH!

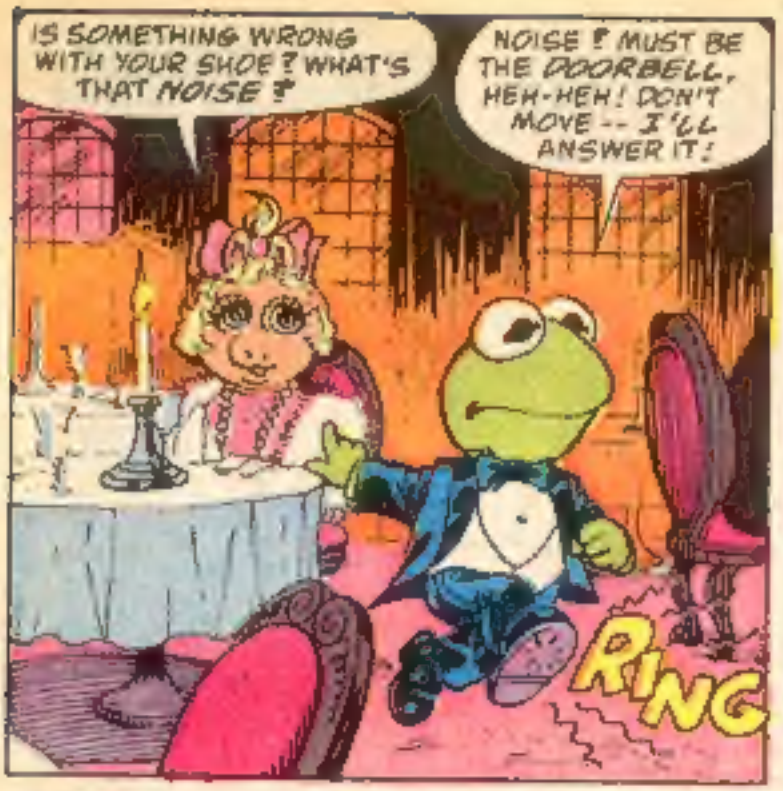

FWAP!
WIP!
FWIP!
FWIP!
FWIP!


GOOD THING THIS MODEL CAME WITH INSTRUCTIONS! OTHERWISE, I NEVER COULD HAVE MADE SUCH A PERFECT...
FAWAPPAWAPA!
FAWAPPAWAPA!


SPLUTTER
SPLUSH!

...ARRIVAL!
WELCOME TO THE WORLD SECRETS CONVENTION! I AM YOUR HOSTESS, MATA PIGGY!
4


GATHERED HERE ARE ALL THE WORLD LEADERS, EAGER TO SHARE ALL THE WORLD'S SECRET INFORMATION AND INVENTIONS!
INTERNATIONAL SECRETS
COLLECT 'EM
TRADE 'EM
TV RATINGS
INVENTIONS
FASHION FADS!
MINI-SKIRTS! ARE-UP
RUFFLES ARE BACK
FASCINATING!
HERE WE HAVE DR. GONZO, WITH HIS STRANGE NEW INVENTION!
WHAT IS IT?
YOU'VE HEARD OF AIRPLANES THAT TRAVEL FASTER THAN SOUND, RIGHT?
VVROOOOOMM
WELL, THIS IS A PLANE THAT TRAVELS FASTER THAN SIGHT!
BRILLIANT, EH?
FRANKLY, I DON'T SEE IT!
OF COURSE YOU DON'T! IT'S OVER THERE!
I'LL TAKE YOUR WORD FOR IT!
YOU KNOW, YOU'RE VERY HANDSOME! YOU WOULDN'T BE A SECRET AGENT, WOULD YOU?
UH, WHO, ME? ER...
RING-A-LING!
GLONK!
5

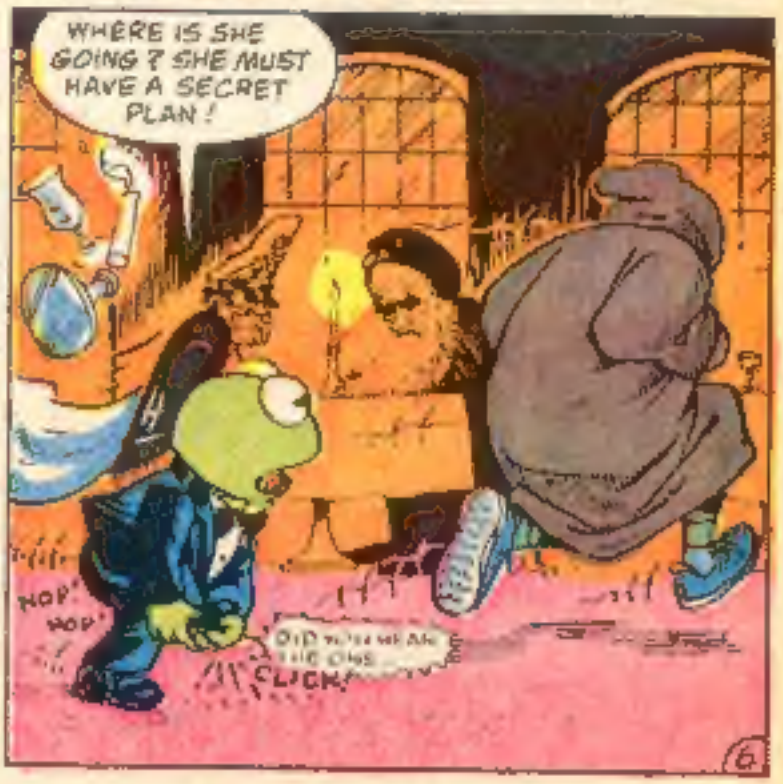

IS SOMETHING WRONG WITH YOUR SHOE? WHAT'S THAT NOISE?
NOISE? MUST BE THE DOORBELL, HEH-HEH! DON'T MOVE -- I'LL ANSWER IT!
RING

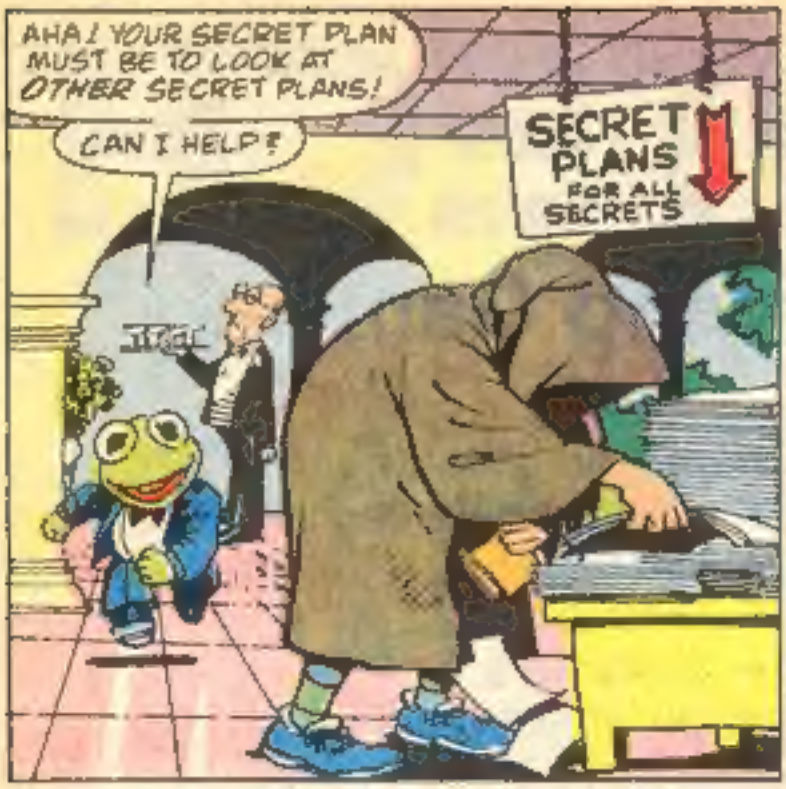
NOW FOR A LITTLE PRIVACY!
RING-A-LING!

DOUBLE-O-F HERE!
THIS IS FOZZIE BEAR AT HEADQUARTERS! I HAVE A QUESTION FOR YOU!

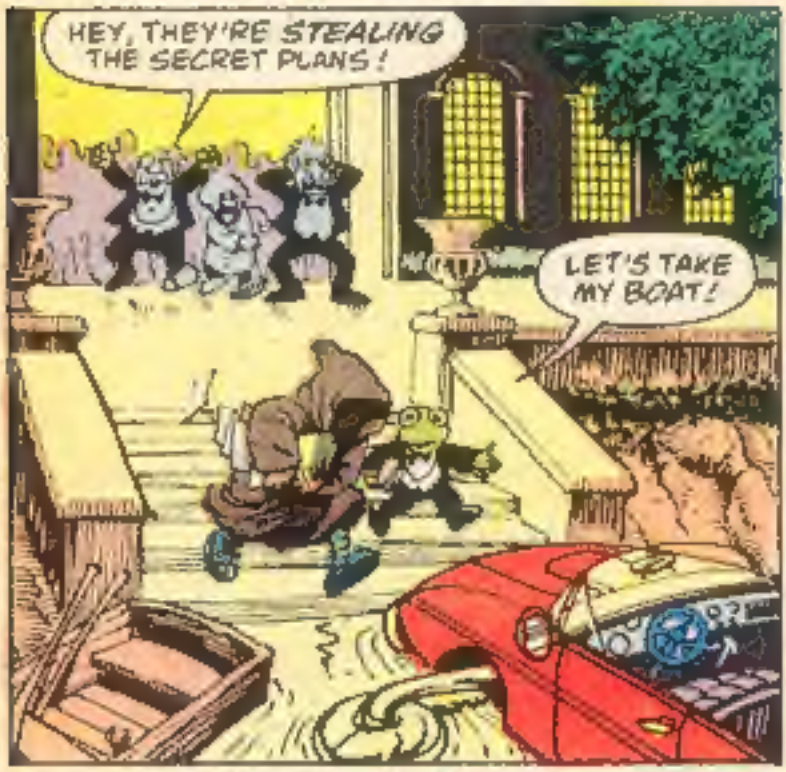
WHY DID THE SPY CROSS THE ROAD?
WHY?
SORRY, THAT'S CLASSIFIED INFORMATION! WOCKA-WOCKA!
UGH!

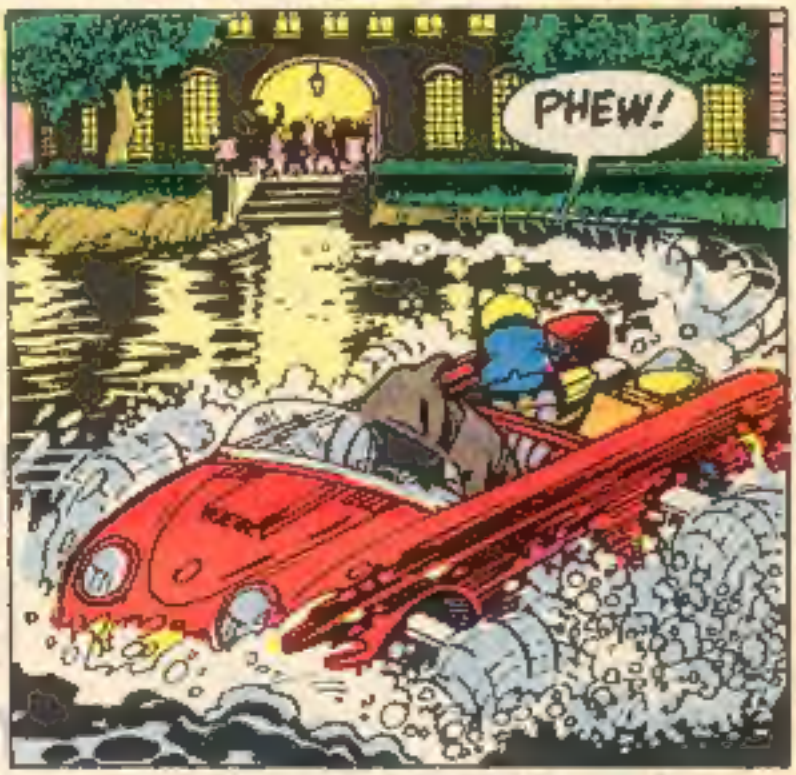
AND BY THE WAY, HAVE YOU SEEN "N"? REMEMBER, TRY TO HELP HER!
NOT YET...
WAIT! I THINK I JUST SAW HER!

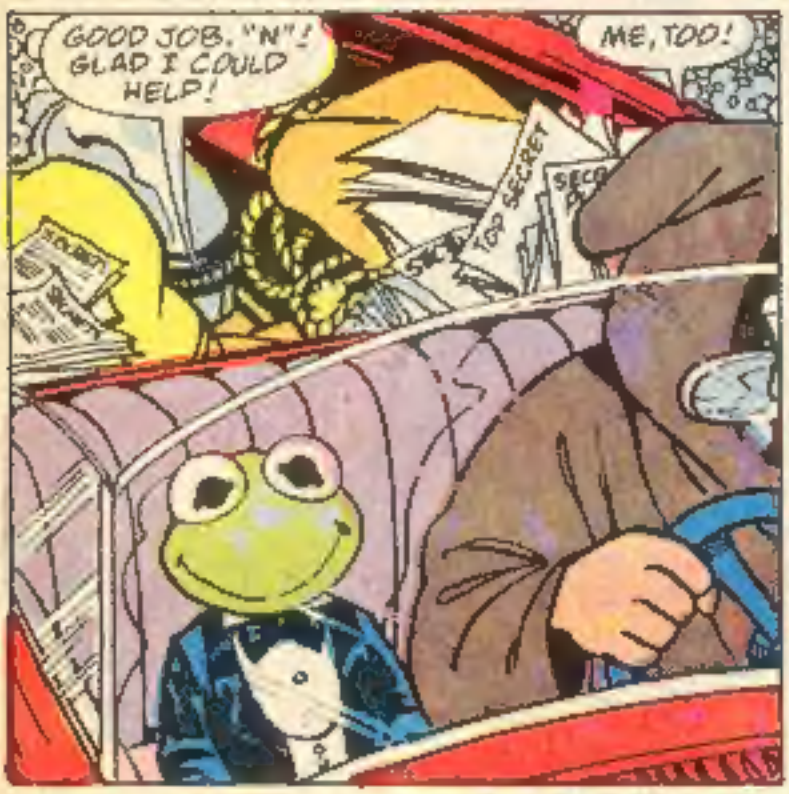

WHERE IS SHE GOING? SHE MUST HAVE A SECRET PLAN!
HOP! HOP!
CLICK!
6


AHA! YOUR SECRET PLAN MUST BE TO LOOK AT OTHER SECRET PLANS!
CAN I HELP?
SECRET PLANS FOR ALL SECRETS

WAIT! YOU DROPPED SOME PLANS!


HEY, THEY'RE STEALING THE SECRET PLANS!
LET'S TAKE MY BOAT!


PHEW!


GOOD JOB, "N"! GLAD I COULD HELP!
ME, TOO!
TOP SECRET

EVEN IF I'M NOT "N"!
ULP!

AW, GEE!

NO, NOT "G" EITHER! I AM THE EVIL AGENT "V"... FOR VILLAIN!

I PLAN TO STEAL THE SECRETS OF THE WORLD...

...AND MAKE THEM PUBLIC!

NO!

YES!

OOP!

SECRET

OOF!

WHY, IT'S YOU! HOW DID YOU KNOW MY SECRET CODE NAME?

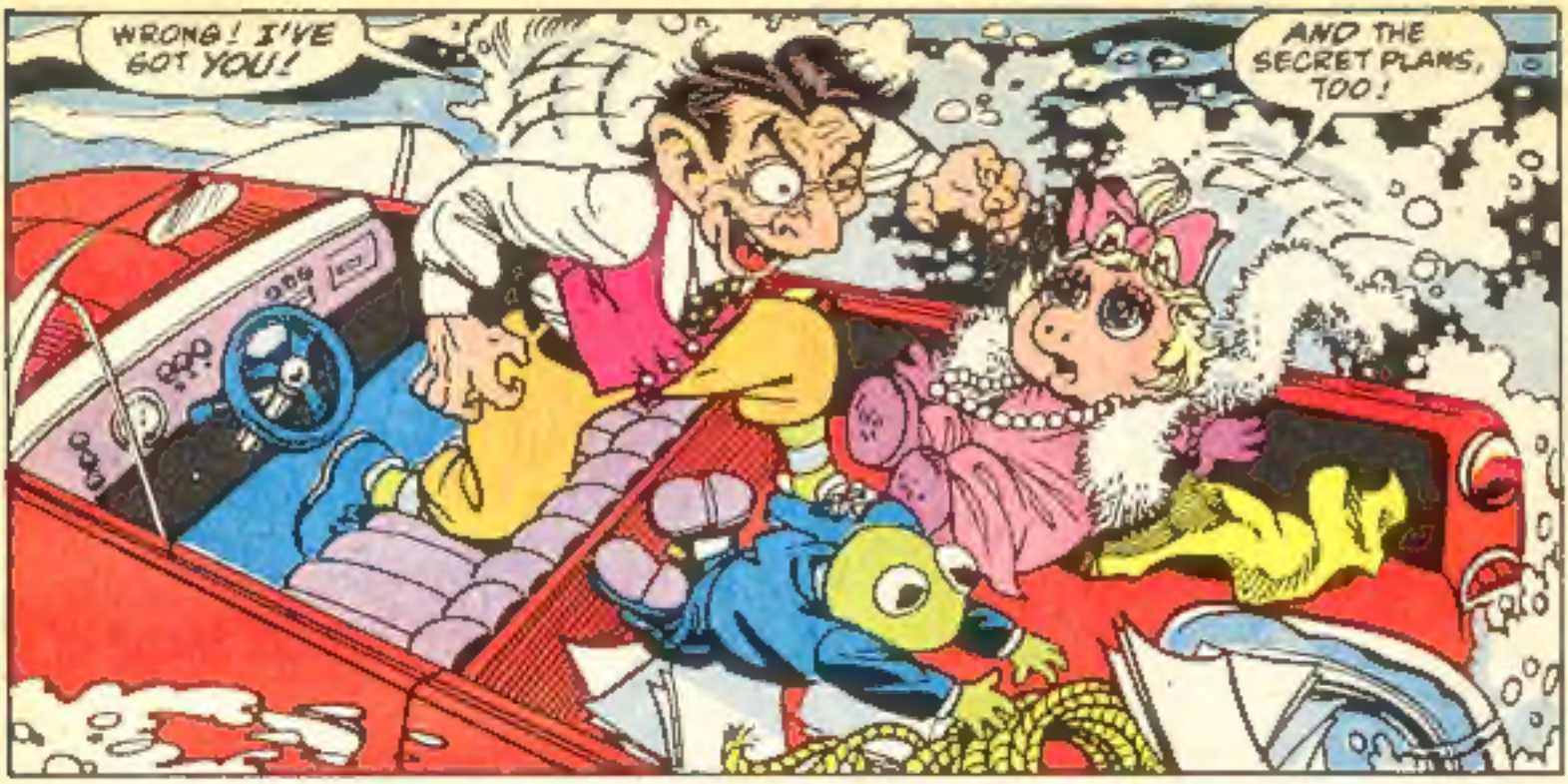
HOW DID YOU KNOW MY SECRET NAME?

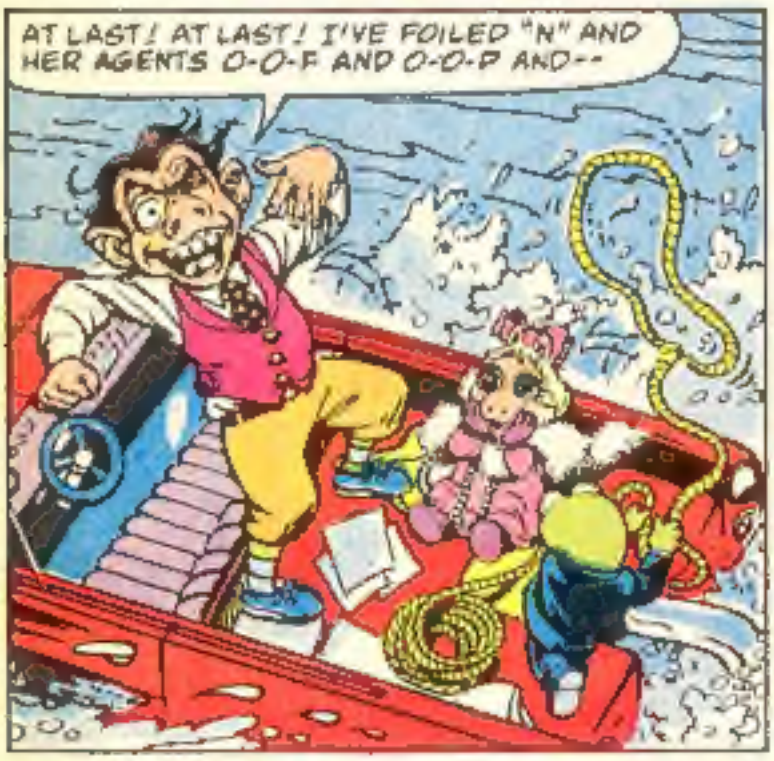
TOP SECRET

I'M SECRET AGENT DOUBLE-O-F, ON A SECRET MISSION, LOOKING FOR "N"!

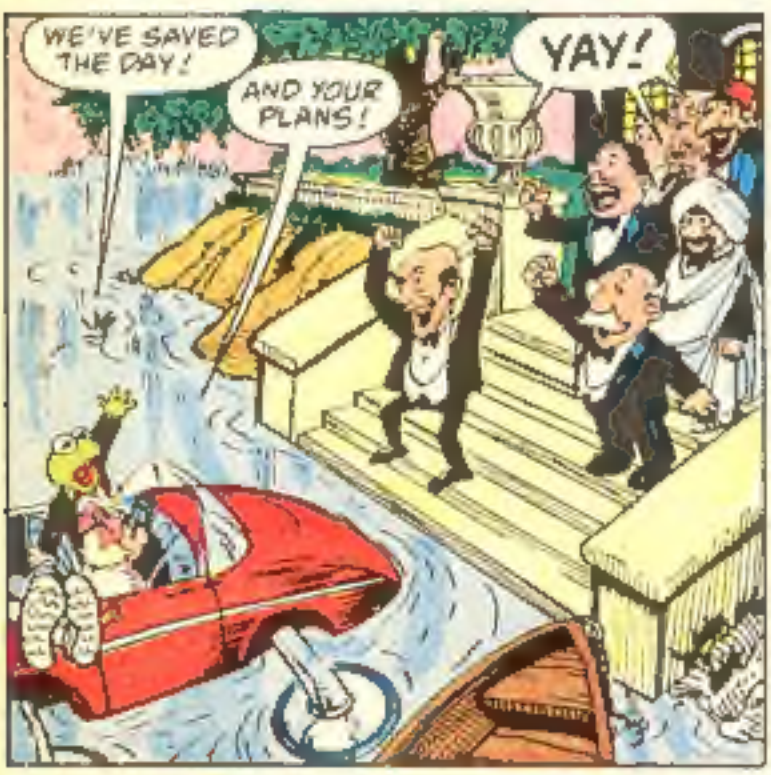
WELL, I'M AGENT DOUBLE-O-P, AND I'M LOOKING FOR "N," TOO! I THOUGHT SHE MIGHT BE WITH YOU!

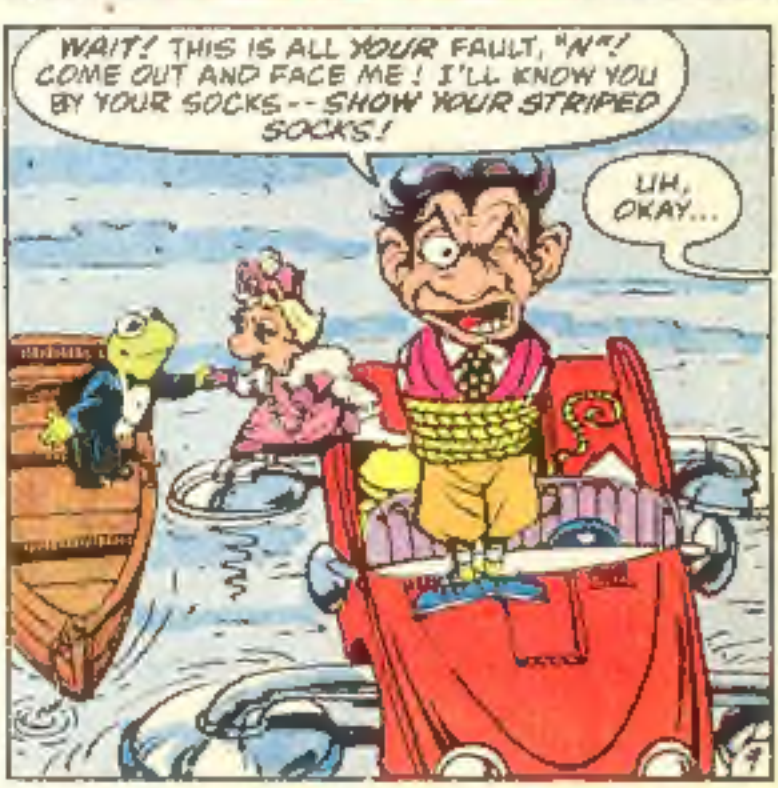
I THOUGHT SHE WAS, BUT INSTEAD, I GOT HIM!


WRONG! I'VE GOT YOU!
AND THE SECRET PLANS, TOO!


AT LAST! AT LAST! I'VE FOILED "N" AND HER AGENTS O-O-F AND O-O-P AND--

--OOK!
DOUBLE O-K? WHO'S HE?


WE'VE SAVED THE DAY!
AND YOUR PLANS!
YAY!


WAIT! THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT, "N"! COME OUT AND FACE ME! I'LL KNOW YOU BY YOUR SOCKS -- SHOW YOUR STRIPED SOCKS!
UH, OKAY...

EVERYONE'S WEARING THE SAME SOCKS!

CURSES!

GNASH! GNASH!

I KNEW IT WAS A TREND THIS YEAR!

BUT I THOUGHT IT WAS A SECRET!

EVEN YOU'RE WEARING THEM!

IF ONLY MY ARGYLES HAD BEEN CLEAN!

AND NOW WHAT'S THAT NOISE?

UH-OH HIT THE DECK!

VROOOOM

'TIS THE FASTER THAN SIGHT A.R. PLANE

SORRY! YOUR TOP SECRET PLANS WENT STRAIGHT TO THE BOTTOM!

THAT'S OKAY MOST OF US COME TO THIS CONVENTION JUST FOR THE PARTY ANYWAY

AT LEAST THEY'RE STILL SECRET!

NOW WHAT?

NOW WE GO OFF INTO THE ROMANTIC SUNSET!

BUT THERE'S NO MOTOR ON THIS BOAT!

I KNOW

WE MAKE A WONDERFUL TEAM DOUBLE O-F!

SULPIE AGENT DOUBLE O-F REPORTING EMERGENCY EVACUATION!

ZAP!

I'M BACK KIDS

ANYTHING HAPPEN WHILE I WAS GONE?

NANNY?

WHERE WERE YOU?

I WANTED TO PICK UP SOME SOCKS, BUT THE STORE WAS SOLD OUT. I GUESS THEY'RE VERY POPULAR!

THAT'S NO SECRET

MUPPET BABIES IN... THE BIG MESS-TAKE

HEY KIDS, WHAT'S GOING ON IN-- ??

KIDS!

WHEEE!

HEE HEE!

ACK NICE FEATHER WE'RE HAVING HUH PIGGY? WOCKA WOCKA!

WATCH OUT, SCOOTER!

HA!HA!

FEATHERS!

LAURA HITCHCOCK – STORY MARIE SEVERIN – ART

A PILLOW FIGHT??

HUH?

ER.. OH H NANNY!

YEE-HAW!

DOO-DAH! DOO-DAH!

PSSST GONZO!

TAP TAP!

JH

OH!

LOOK AT THIS MESS!

SORRY, NANNY

THIS ISN'T MESSY NANNY THIS SELF EXPRESSION AN ART FORM NOT TO MENTION FUN!

MAYBE FOR YOU. OOCH!

BONK!

BUT IT MAKES THINGS DIFFICULT FOR EVERYONE ELSE YOU'LL HAVE TO CLEAN UP

AW SHUCKS! HOW CAN THIS STUFF BOTHER ANYONE?

I HATE CLEANING

YEAH

YEAH

I WISH WE DIDN'T HAVE TO

YEAH!

TOY CHEST

MESS MESS

THERE'S GOT TO BE SOME PLACE WHERE PEOPLE APPRECIATE A GOOD MESS!

HMM I BET I KNOW WHERE T IS

GRUMBLE

GRUMBLE

WHERE?!?

INTO THE CLOSET

WE GO ARE WE AT

A WASHING MACHINE?

NO AT. AT... GEE WHERE IS THIS ANYWAY?

THE CENTER FOR MESS ENLIGHTMENT, OF COURSE

CENTER FOR MESSES

WE SPECIALIZE IN MESS PRODUCTION! I'M THE CREATIVE DIRECTOR AND YOU MUST BE THE NEW RECRUITS

GONZO, THIS PLACE IS WEIRD!

THANKS PIGGY

WE'RE GOOD AT MAKING MESSES!

HMM SO YOU SAY BUT DO YOUR MESSES HAVE STYLE AND IMAGINATION? DO THEY HAVE SUBSTANCE? ARE THEY THINKING MESSES??

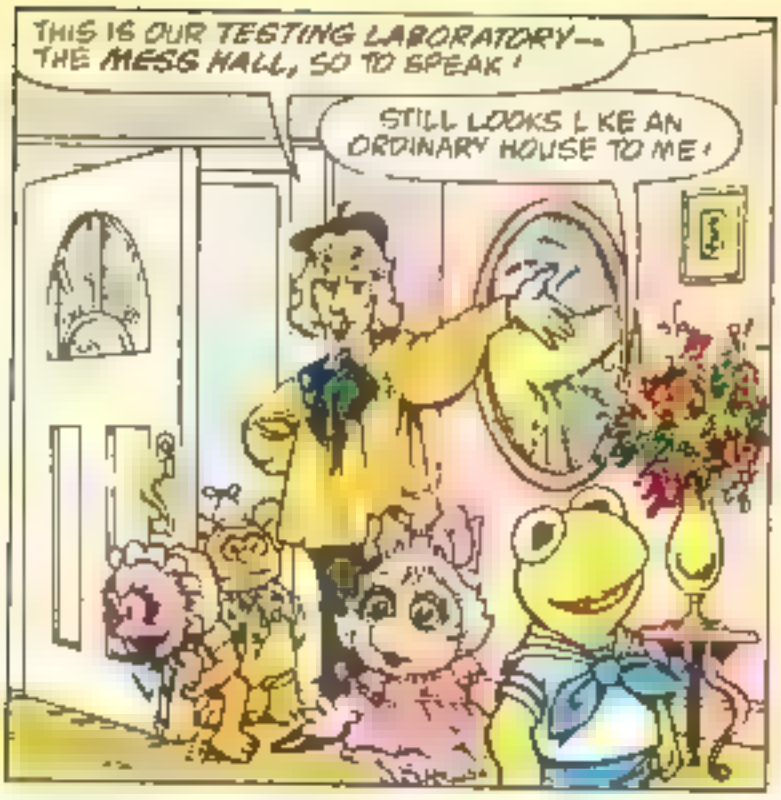
ER

WE JUST DO THEM WE DON'T THINK ABOUT THEM

TSK TSK HOW CARELESS OF YOU WELL COME WITH ME AND WE'LL PUT YOUR MESS TO THE TEST!

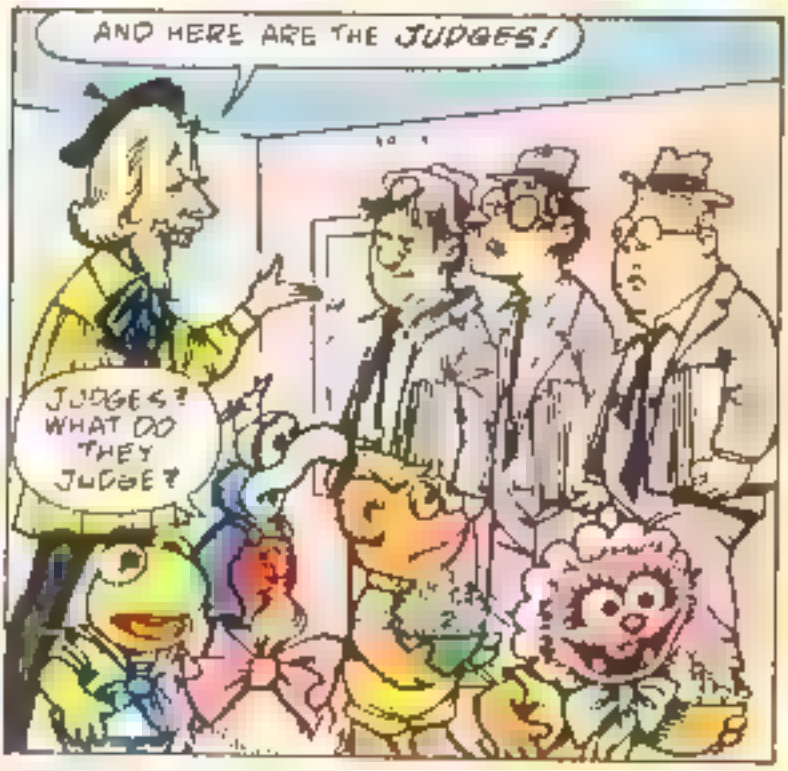
IT LOOKS LIKE AN ORDINARY HOUSE

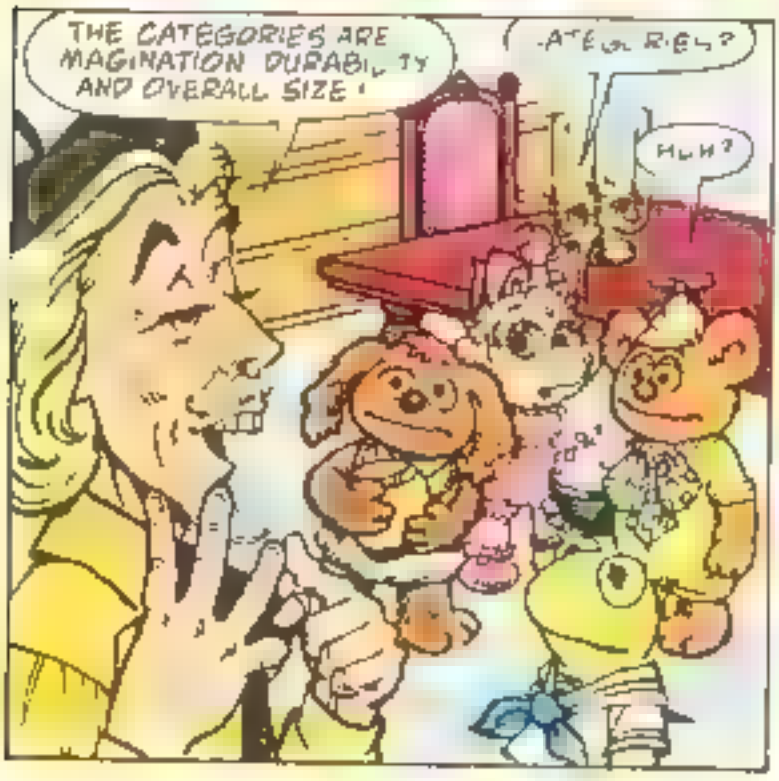
OH SUCH INNOCENCE!


THIS IS OUR TESTING LABORATORY-- THE MESS HALL, SO TO SPEAK!
STILL LOOKS LIKE AN ORDINARY HOUSE TO ME!

BUT NO! THIS IS WHERE WE CREATE EXTRAORDINARY MESS TERPIECES!
HOW?

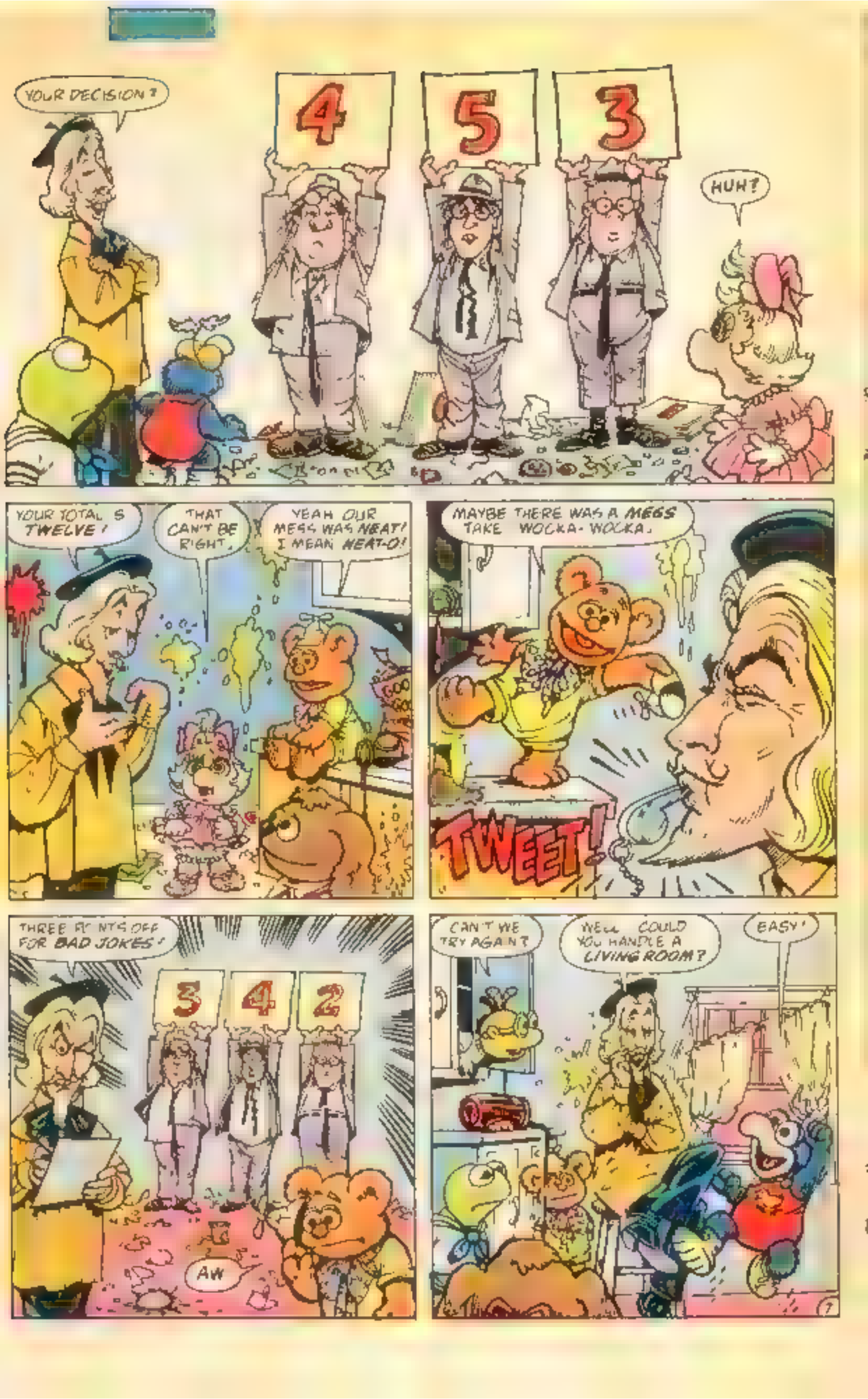
TRY IT YOURSELF! HERE ARE ALL THE SUPPLIES YOU'LL NEED
FUN
WOW

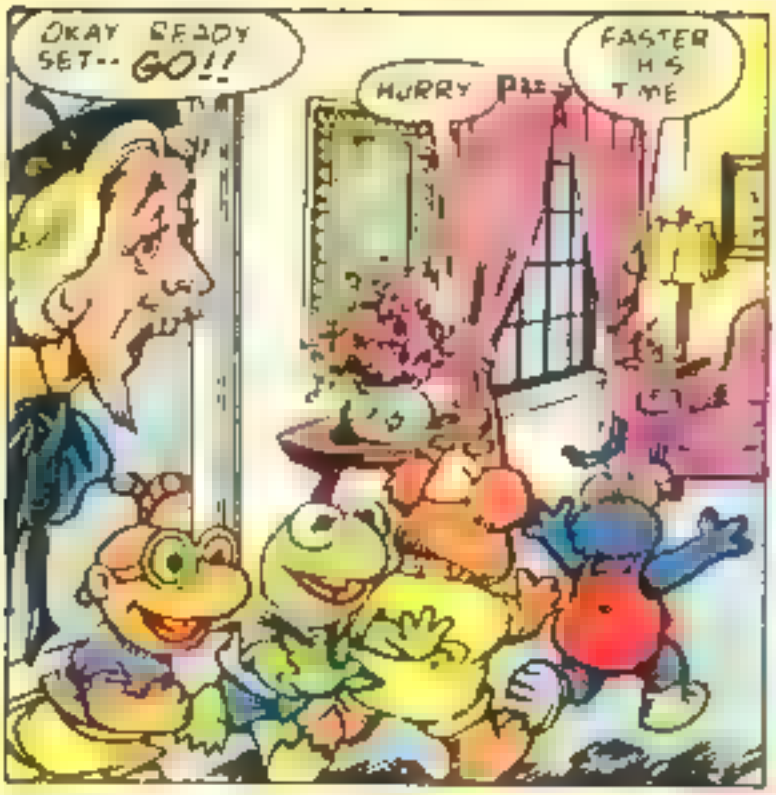

AND HERE ARE THE JUDGES!
JUDGES? WHAT DO THEY JUDGE?


THE CATEGORIES ARE IMAGINATION DURABILITY AND OVERALL SIZE!
CATEGORIES?
HUH?

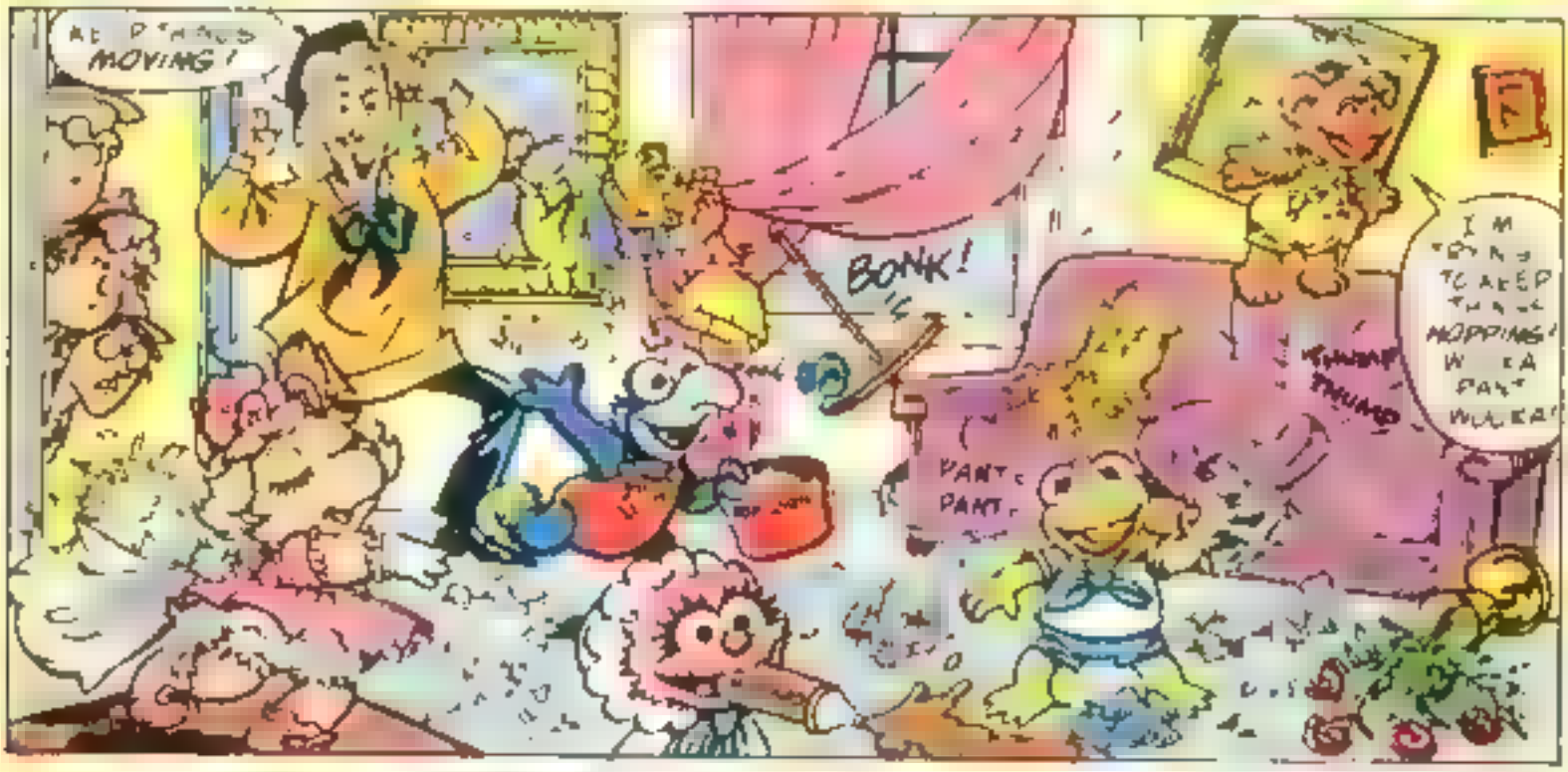
WELL START WITH THE KITCHEN ARE YOU READY-- SET-
GO!

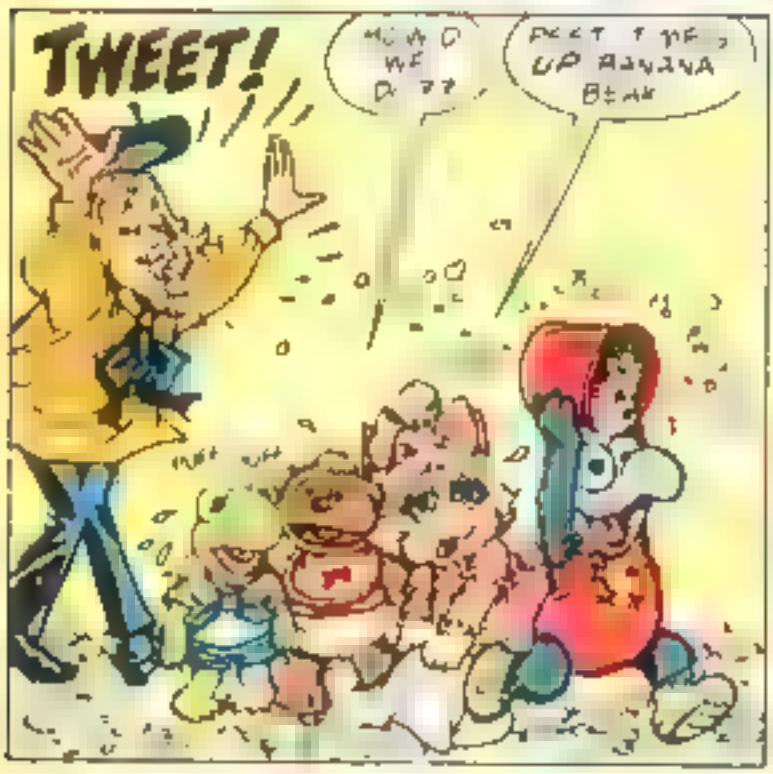
TWEET!
YIPPEE! SOMEONE WANTS US TO MAKE A MESS!
ANYBODY FOR A CHOCOLATE SYRUP AND TURKEY SANDWICH?
BREAD
SOAP POWDER
MORE EGGS GONZO?
EGGS
WHIPPED CREAM
ICE CREAM
TWEET!
SPLAT
SPLAT
STOP! TIME'S UP JUDGES?
THAT'S IT?
GREAT MESS EH?


YOUR DECISION?
4
5
3
HUH?
YOUR TOTAL S TWELVE!
THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT.
YEAH OUR MESS WAS NEAT! I MEAN NEAT-O!
MAYBE THERE WAS A MESS TAKE WOCKA-WOCKA.
TWEET!
THREE POINTS OFF FOR BAD JOKES!
3
4
2
AW
CAN'T WE TRY AGAIN?
WELL COULD YOU HANDLE A LIVING ROOM?
EASY!
7


OKAY READY SET-- GO!!
HURRY
FASTER HS TME

GOO? FAS'ER
WHAT AR'UT THUNE P.CES? TH NK MESS!


MOVING!
BONK!
I M TO KEEP MOPPING! W KA PAN WALKA!
PANT PANT
THUMP


TWEET!
UP BANANA

5 3 5
WHAT?!

THAT'S IT? A LOUSY THIRTEEN?
PHEW! BEING MESSY IS HARD WORK!
AWW...
YAY!
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
NO ONE CAN MAKE A GOOD MESS ANYMORE! IT'S BECOMING A LOST ART!
ANIMAL HAS TALENT, BUT IT'S KIND OF... ER... RAW!
WHEN IT COMES TO MESSES, YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WITH ANY INSPIRATION!
ME? WOW!
HEY, I COULD MAKE A GREAT MESS ALL BY MYSELF! I KNOW I COULD!
WATCH!
WHAT A BRILLIANT IDEA!
CLICK!
GONZO, YOU'RE A NATURAL! A GENIUS!
JUDGES, WHAT DO YOU THINK?
10
10
10
YAY! A GENIUS! I CAN'T BELIEVE NO ONE FIGURED IT OUT BEFORE!
POPCORN

YAY! WE'LL MESS THE MOST FROM COAST TO COAST!
YAHOO! KERMIT! PIGGY! LOOK AT ME!
OH, JOY!
ER... HOW DOES ANYONE SEE ALL THIS?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? HOW COULD ANYONE MESS--UH, MISS-- THIS WONDERFUL MESS?
NO! I MEAN, HOW DO MY FRIENDS SEE THIS MESS? WHAT FUN IS A MESS IF NO ONE ELSE SEES IT?
I NEVER THOUGHT OF THAT BEFORE!
HEY, DID I HEAR A WOCKA-WOCKA?
FOZZIE! PIGGY!
HMMM... THIS LOOKS FAMILIAR! MAYBE THEY WENT THIS WAY!
POPCORN
MAYBE THEY WENT INTO...

POP!

...THE NURSERY?

FOZZIE! PIGGY! SCOOTER!

WHERE ARE YOU?

RIGHT HERE, GONZO!

THANK GOODNESS I FOUND YOU ALL! LOOK AT THIS GREAT MESS!

AREN'T I A GENIUS, PIGGY?

SILLY!

I DON'T KNOW IF YOU'RE A GENIUS, BUT I DO KNOW NANNY'LL BE MAD IF WE DON'T CLEAN UP!

OH, YEAH!

HI, NANNY!

WOW! I ASKED YOU TO CLEAN THE NURSERY, BUT I DIDN'T EXPECT IT TO SPARKLE!

I GUESS WE GOT CARRIED AWAY!

AND WE DON'T MESS AROUND!

YEAH -- WE NEED TO KNOW WHERE EVERYTHING IS SO WE CAN MESS IT UP AGAIN ANOTHER DAY!

END

ED JACOBSON
EDITOR

MUPPET MAIL

LAURA HITCHCOCK
ASSISTANT EDITOR

c/o S.T.A.R. COMICS, 387 PARK AVE. SOUTH, N.Y.C., N.Y. 10016

Dear MUPPET BABIES,

I started reading STAR Comics in November of 1986. I have some suggestions for you for the MUPPET BABIES. Piggy could challenge Gonzo in a karate match, then Gonzo would have to take karate lessons. If Rowlf played a different song on his piano, something magical would happen. Then Fozzie would hate jokes so much he would want to forget every joke he ever told. After that, Kermit would start body building and become the strongest thing in the universe.

Well, I think the MUPPET BABIES are [illegible]!

Odie Wilkerson
Fair Oaks, CA

. . . and then we'd have enough MUPPET BABIES stories to keep us all happy for the rest of our lives! (We're almost afraid to find out where your creativity will go after a year with STAR!)

Dear STAR,

In issue #13, I liked both stories. I liked the first story when Kermit acted like Sherlock Holmes ("The Strange Case of the Missing Mermaid Costume"), and I also liked the second story when they were in the space shuttle and landed in Jokeville ("Out of this World").

Let me ask you this question: when will the Babies ever grow up and get out of their imaginations?

Andy Hughes
Reform, AL

We can't imagine! And we don't want to, either!

Dear STAR,

I LOVE the MUPPET BABIES! My favorite is Baby Animal! He's cool! I was wondering, why is he not that popular?

By the way, #12 was very good.

Ilana Heilweil
Deerfield, FL

Now, wait a minute! Who've you been talking to, Ilana? Just look at these . . .

Dear STAR,

I love MUPPET BABIES comic books. It's my favorite out of all the STAR comic books. I have nine issues. They're great. My favorite issue is #14, "Upside-Down Land," and "Treble in the Nursery."

I think you should make MUPPET BABIES come out monthly instead of bi-monthly. I think you should give Animal a bigger part in the stories. Animal is my favorite Muppet Baby.

Raul Ruiz
Inver Grove Highs, MN

Dear S.T.A.R.,

I like Animal the best because he goes wild. Sometimes I feel that way, too.

Tell Animal to please send me a picture and tell me how old he is. I am seven.

Jeff Renault
Rehoboth Beach, DE

Dear STAR,

I love your comics, especially MUPPET BABIES. I like Animal — he's neat.

You did a good job on your comics!

Shawn Gordon
Mt. Pleasant, MI

Whoa! Keep reading, Shawn — we're *still* going strong!

(And thanks, Raul and Jeff, too, for proving Animal really does have his own fan following! Long live the wild ones!!)

Dear STAR,

I read a lot of MUPPET BABIES comics. Before, I thought these comics were stupid, but then my curiosity got the best of me — and issue #10 was Marvel-ous!

You guys should make a double-sized issue of MUPPET BABIES, or make an issue of MUPPET BABIES with Marvel Superheros in it. Well, I hope you guys do both of these. PLEEZZZZZ (I'm a boy).

(Sorry for the mistakes. I'll be neater next time.)

Sandy Angotti
Etobicoke, Ontario
CANADA

We're sorry, Sandy, that neither of your ideas is in the works right now. But if you and lots of other readers keep writing to insist — who knows? After all, we pay attention to *all* our mail — whether from girls, boys, or any other miscellaneous life forms!

Dear STAR,

I loved MUPPET BABIES #13. It was great!

My favorite character is Scooter. He is my favorite because he knows so much about computers. Next time you see him, ask him if he has any programs for the Commodore 64.

Jeffrey Melvin
Birmingham, AL

Er . . . does not compute!

Dear STAR,

Hats off to you and the Muppet Babies for the Kermlock Holmes story in your May 1987 issue. It is certainly in the spirit of Mr. Holmes's 1 centennial anniversary that Kermlock solves the case. I look forward to future Kermlock Holmes cases.

The game's afoot.

Arnold Korotkin
Upper Montclair, NJ

Brilliant idea, our dear Arnold! No promises yet, but Kermlock may indeed be back before long!

Dear S.T.A.R.,

I'm a big secret admirer of Kermit. I think he's the best Muppet Baby. Someday, I'd like to have a Kermit doll. I watch your show every Saturday.

Robby Carr
Gloucester, NJ

Thanks for the letter, Robby — we just had to make your secret public!

Dear MUPPET BABIES,

I'm a big fan of MUPPET BABIES and of other STAR Comics, like TOP DOG. Piggy is my favorite because I think she is beautiful. I also like Kermit because he thinks about others and is always happy, almost. My favorite issue is #9, when Piggy imagines being Cleo Piggy, Queen of the Nile.

Say hi to Piggy, and keep it up!

Tiffany So
San Francisco, CA

Well, Tiffany, we certainly won't let you down!

Also, we have some late-breaking news for you! TOP DOG's last regular story (TOP DOG #14) saw him leaving home and hearth under pressure from the evil Dr. Ominous. Alone and forlorn, TOP DOG is now on the road, facing new adventures . . . and new dangers! We'll carry his story in upcoming issues of HEATHCLIFF. Watch for them!

Dear STAR,

I really like MUPPET BABIES comics. I especially liked "Upside-Down Land." It was cute. I liked when Fozzie says "It's dark in Upside-Down Land." Then Piggy says "That's because your eyes are closed, Fozzie!" And Fozzie says, "I knew dat!"

Jessica Luemen
Chicago, IL

We knew dat!

Dear STAR,

You really outdid yourselves in issue #14!

My favorite Baby is Gonzo, because we have something in common: always being called weird. I like to change my voice and some kids call me weird for that, so Gonzo, me, and a certain boy named Clay Shannon (who has written to you before) are kind of like brothers.

Jay Smith
Renton, WA

Y'know, we have a feeling there are a lot of "weirdos" out there, Jay! And judging by our mail, you're in very good company. It's not weird to be weird! Or is it weird not to be weird? Or is it . . . oh, never mind — just keep writing!